

NEW CHARTER WILL SAVE TAXPAYERS OF FAIRMONT THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

Measure is Only Opposed by the Office Holders Trust—No Real Objections Have Been Shown.

APPOINTEE OFFICERS SALARIES REDUCED

Provides For a Strict Registration Law Which Insures the Citizens a Fair and Upright Election Eliminating All Corrupt Politics.

The New Charter which is before the State Legislature will save thousands of dollars to taxpayers, and provides for fair elections. The Office Holders Trust and its adherents continue to misrepresent the changes made by the new charter for Fairmont, but they have not yet made a single objection to any provision of the measure.

The only changes of importance are a reduction of the number of commissioners to three instead of four, the elimination of the office of City Treasurer, a reduction of salaries as shown in the following schedule and to amend the charter so as to provide for a strict registration law to insure fair and honest elections. Can any citizen of Fairmont, who has the welfare of the city at heart object to the above changes?

REDUCTION IN SALARIES.

Present Charter.

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| Four Commissioners at \$2,000 per year..... | \$ 8,000 |
| Salary of Mayor..... | 500 |
| Salary of City Clerk..... | 1,400 |
| Salary of City Treasurer..... | 1,500 |
| Salary of City Attorney..... | 1,000 |
| Salary of City Health Officer..... | 600 |

Total under present charter.....\$13,000

New Charter.

| | |
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| Three Commissioners at \$1,500 per year..... | \$ 4,500 |
| Salary of Mayor..... | 200 |
| Salary of City Clerk..... | 1,200 |
| Salary of City Attorney..... | 500 |
| Salary of Health Officer..... | 500 |

Total under new charter.....\$ 7,900

Saved to the Taxpayers each year.....\$ 5,200

Where is the Taxpayer of Fairmont who will object to this saving?

A STRICT REGULATION LAW.

That the elections held in Fairmont in recent years have been filled with rottenness is an open secret. That men working here temporarily with no right to vote have been allowed by dishonest election officials to vote, is known to all.

That old citizens and taxpayers have been refused permission to vote is likewise true.

That votes have been openly purchased and that the purchasers of the votes have boasted of the law is also a matter of recent history.

That these same men have openly boasted that they could not be indicted by a Marion County Grand Jury is also a fact.—(Safety First).

To overcome some of these weaknesses the new charter provides for a strict non-partisan ballot, on which it is not possible for any political party to have any advantage, for the names are to be placed in alphabetical order regardless of party. There is also provided a personal registration measure, which provides that each voter must appear before the registrars in person and be registered, in order to be entitled to vote.

To vote at an election a person must be a resident of the precinct in which he desires to vote at least six months prior to the election—this is an improvement over the present law which provides for a residence of only sixty days. The measure also provides for a special grand jury to try cases of violation of election laws, when such a special jury is deemed necessary.

These provisions will safeguard the elections and make for a fair and honest count.

Who will object to such a change in the present charter—surely not those who love honesty and fairness, and have respect for the law! If there are those who oppose the new charter it can be for only one of two reasons—either they are personally interested as a member or adherent of the Office Holders Trust, or else they are in favor of unfair and purchased elections.—To Which Do You Belong?

100 Gallons Whiskey Poured Down Sewer

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—To make room for a new confiscation of liquor being collected daily by the officers in enforcing the Yost prohibition law, Sheriff Bonner Hill emptied one hundred gallons of whiskey and several gallons of beer into the sewer. The liquor had been collected at various periods and held as evidence at the county court house.

Playmate Shoots As Boy Takes Step

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—Accidentally shot with a 22-caliber rifle in the hands of his playmate, Andrew Payne, Noyes Smith, 13, son of I. N. Smith, is in a serious condition at his home here.

The Weather

West Virginia: Fair tonight and Wednesday.
Western Pennsylvania: Fair tonight and Wednesday, slowly rising temperature Wednesday.

Motor Car Plant Is Closed by Court

MARTINSBURG, W. Va., Feb. 9.—In the Circuit court here Judge Woods ordered that the plant of the Norfolk Motor Car Company in this city, be immediately closed down and that Receiver Charles G. Smith wind up the affairs of the company at once. This concern, which was removed from Norfolk, O., several years ago, went into the hands of a receiver last fall, but had continued the manufacture of automobiles. Receiver Smith asked permission to continue operating the plant, stating that he had now orders for \$55,000 worth of automobiles, but the court decided that these could not be manufactured with any appreciable advantage to the creditors and ordered the plant closed. Efforts have been made to reorganize the company, but these failed. Lack of sufficient capital to operate the plant to advantage was the cause of the failure.

Kanawha Strike May Be Prolonged

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—The strike of the miners at the Dry Branch and Ronda coal mines of the Coalburgh Collieries Co., which has been in progress for more than a week, may extend over a period of several months.

Both sides to the controversy are obstinate, and do not seem willing to make concessions in favor of each other. The question of screened and unscreened coal being paid for is the cause.

A conference was held here Saturday night between the commissioners and officers of the United Mine Workers and the Kanawha Coal Operators' Association, but it was unsuccessful in so far as an adjustment of grievances was concerned.

Quart a Month For Alabama's Thirsty

(By Associated Press)
MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 9.—A bill preventing any person from receiving more than one quart of liquor a month outside of the state became a law automatically. Governor Henderson declining either to veto or sign it. It is effective June 30, when the state goes dry. The governor vetoed a bill preventing the circulation in the states of newspapers carrying liquor advertisements.

Liquor Charges May Involve Pittsburghers

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—An indictment has been returned by the grand jury against the Ironton Liquor Company of Ironton, O., charging a violation of the West Virginia prohibition laws in soliciting orders for whiskey in this state. This is the third time since the Yost law went into effect that a concern outside of the state has been indicted, and the case is of state-wide interest, as it will furnish a test of the authority of West Virginia to prosecute foreign companies under the Yost law.

It is said the indictment is only the beginning of a campaign which will end in the indictment of liquor companies in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and other cities.

WILL NOT PROTEST ON FLAG INCIDENT

High Officials Claim That Act Is Customary In Times Of War.

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The administration view of the hoisting of the American flag on the British steamship Lusitania as stated today on the highest authority is that the use of other flags by ships of nations at war is such a customary project that no formal protest can be made, but that it will be proper to send Great Britain a note pointing out the danger to neutral shipping which may follow if such a practice is continued. The President takes the view that the war zone proclaimed by Germany does not constitute a blockade, or even a paper blockade. He stated that it was simply a warning. The President himself said that action by congress could not control the use of the American flag by foreign ships, and that restrictions on such practices would have to come through international agreement.

High officials apparently attach much importance to both the Lusitania and war zone situation, and it was made clear today that every effort will be made to protect American rights. President Wilson told callers that up to the present no other neutral governments have officially asked the cooperation of the United States.

Financier Dies In N.Y. Hospital

NORMAN REAM, DIRECTOR IN MANY RAILROADS, IS DEAD AFTER OPERATION.

(By Associated Press)
NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Norman Ream, financier and director of many railroads, banks and industrial corporations, died here in a hospital today. Mr. Ream is said to have died after an operation for intestinal trouble, from which he had suffered for years. He was in his 71st year. Mr. Ream was rated as one of the most prominent capitalists in the United States, and was particularly known in the West, where he began his career. He was one of the directors and organizers of the United States Steel Corporation, a director of the B. & O., the Erie, the Pere Marquette, Seaboard Air Line, and other railroads, and was a member of most of their executive committees.

Mr. Ream's career was typical of the boy who begins life in a humble station and rises to wealth and distinction. He was born in Somerset county, Pa., and as a young man divided his time between farm work and teaching school. He served in the Civil War and afterward became a clerk in a store in Harnessedville, Pa.

In 1871 he went to Chicago and became a live stock and grain merchant. He was one of the pioneers in the organization of the steel industry, and was active in bringing together the various western steel plants, which formed the Federal Steel Co. When this was absorbed by the United States Steel Corporation in 1901, Mr. Ream became a director of the corporation and has since served as a member of its finance committee, making his office in this city and his home in Woodstock, Conn.

Meantime he had acquired large real estate interests in Chicago, and had since maintained an active interest in financial affairs in that city. He was, at the time of his death, a director of the Equitable Life Insurance Society, the National Biscuit Co., and the Metropolitan Trust Company of New York. Of late years he had devoted much of his attention to building up the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio railroad, in which he was a stockholder.

SLIGHT CHANGE MAY BE MADE IN FIRST DISTRICT

Redistricting Plans Will Be Taken Up At Once By Solons.

COMMITTEES ACT ON BILL

FAIRMONT CHARTER BILL IS PRACTICALLY ASSURED OF FAVOR IN SENATE.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—The plan for redistricting the state will soon be up for consideration before the legislature. The state will have six congressional districts instead of five. The First district will be slightly changed. Under the plan practically agreed upon Harrison and Lewis will be taken from the First district and Taylor substituted. This will decrease the normal Republican majority slightly, but will leave the district safely Republican under normal conditions.

The senatorial redistricting plan has also been considered, and Marion, Preston and Taylor will be made one district, while Monongalia will be placed in a district with Wetzel and Marshall. This plan will very materially increase the Republican majority in the Marion district.

Joint committees from the house and senate on redistricting decided to recommend favorable action on the plan of redistricting the state as to congressional districts, as embodied in a bill introduced in the house by Delegate Reynolds and in the senate by Senator Blessing. The plan proposed to redistrict the state is as follows: First district, Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Marion and Taylor; Second, Monongalia, Preston, Barbour, Randolph, Tucker, Pendleton, Grant, Hardy, Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson; Third, Ritchie, Doddridge, Harrison, Calhoun, Gilmer, Lewis, Upshur, Braxton, Clay, Nicholas and Webster; Fourth, Tyler, Pleasants, Wood, Wirt, Jackson, Mason, Roane, Putnam and Cabell; Fifth, Wayne, Lincoln, Mingo, Logan, McDowell, Wyoming, Mercer, Summers and Monroe; Sixth, Kanawha, Boone, Raleigh, Fayette, Greenbrier and Pocahontas.

It is believed that leaders in both houses have agreed upon this plan for redistricting the state, and that the bills soon to be offered will be promptly passed.

The Fairmont charter bill is the only bill reported adversely by a senate committee at this session of the legislature that has not been rejected by the senate. The placing of the bill on the calendar after the adverse committee report practically insures the passage of the bill through the upper branch and sentiment for the bill is very promising in the house.

No Action On The Coal Weighing Bill

CHARLESTON, Feb. 9.—The mines and mining committee of the senate heard arguments pro and con on the bill requiring all coal to be weighed. S. B. Montgomery, legal representative of the miners' organization, and Thomas Cairns, president of district 17, advocated the passage of the bill, claiming it would be beneficial to the miners.

Geo. W. Williams, of Beckley, representing the Winding Gulf Company; D. T. Evans, representing the Kanawha Coal Operators' Association, and D. T. Berger, of the Pocahontas field, argued that the cost of complying with the bill would be prohibitive, and that even the miners would not be satisfied with such a bill. No action was taken on the bill.

Insane Postal Clerk Overpowers 3 Police

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., Feb. 9.—Cecil A. Bainbridge, a young railway postal clerk of Grafton, became suddenly insane on a passenger train passing this city, and was adjudged a lunatic, and taken to the state insane asylum yesterday after overpowering three policemen.

Official War News.

(By Associated Press)
PARIS, Feb. 9.—The bombardment of Furnes, Ypres and Soissons, without success, and the usual artillery exchanges along the front in Belgium and France is reported today by the official French war office statement. The capture of a German position near LaBasse and infantry attacks in the region of Argonne were also reported.

(By Associated Press)
BERLIN, by wireless to Sayville, Feb. 9.—Comparative quiet reigns in the entire western theater of the war according to the German official statement today. With the exception of several local minor successes, the situation on the east Prussian front is unchanged.

PACKING FIRMS GUILTY Must Pay Fines for Violating the Anti-Trust Laws of Missouri.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 9.—The packing firms of Armour & Co., Swift & Co., St. Louis Pressed Beef & Provision Co., the Hammond Packing Co., and Morris & Co., were found guilty of

violating the state anti-trust law by the Missouri supreme court today. An order of ouster was issued and the companies are allowed to remain in the state on the payment of the fines.

Troops Withdrawn From Strike Zone

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Secretary Garrison decided to withdraw from Arkansas the First Squadron of the Fifth Cavalry, sent into the state several months ago to enforce Federal court orders during a coal mining strike. The troops will return to Fort Sheridan, Ill., within a few days.

The squadron was ordered into the Prairie Creek district in November, upon the complaint of the department of justice that strikers were interfering with the execution of court orders. There has been no trouble since the soldiers reached the scene.

EXPORT RECORD IS EQUAL TO YEAR AGO

Food Supplies and Clothing Figures Make Big Increase.

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Exports of American manufacture in December last regained the level for the same month of 1913, a decrease of ten per cent in finished manufactures, being more than offset in gains in manufactured foodstuffs. A statement by the department of commerce shows that in certain lines of manufacture, exports made nominal gains compared to December of last year. Among notable increases were commercial autos from \$1,001,000 to \$2,333,000; cotton knit goods, \$295,000 to over \$2,000,000; wool and clothing, \$183,000 to \$1,333,000; other woolen goods, including blankets, \$103,000 to \$2,725,000; rubber boots and shoes, \$84,000 to \$884,000; sole leather, \$554,000 to \$2,600,000, and upper leather to \$1,750,000.

Bromley Closes Big Revival Meeting

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. Va., Feb. 9.—The greatest revival of religion ever known in the history of this city and community closed here last night. The meetings were conducted in a great union tabernacle erected for the purpose and were under the direction of Dr. Henry W. Bromley, of Wilmore, Ky., and his party of workers.

Over 1,000 people of nearly all walks of life have hit the saw dust, and multitudes of church people have professed to being revived. Tremendous enthusiasm marked the whole campaign, which has been the absorbing thing of this section of the state for the last five weeks. Even the flood, which inundated the city, could not down the interest, the tabernacle being on high ground and services continuing every night.

The Bromley party were the recipients of many presents besides the offering of the last Sunday.

The local pastors and churches are greatly pleased with the results of the campaign and are at work attempting to conserve the great harvest of souls.

Dr. Bromley and his party go next to Howell, Mich.

Penna. House Passes Woman Suffrage Bill

(By Associated Press)
HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 9.—The house today acceded by a viva voce vote the resolution introduced by Mr. Maurer, the Socialist member from Berks county, petitioning the President and congress to prohibit the export of foodstuffs or lending of money to countries at war. There was no debate.

The resolution to submit to voters the woman's suffrage amendment to the constitution, was passed finally in the house today by a vote of 130 to 71. The resolution now goes to the senate and if passed by that body the amendment will go before the people next November. The resolution was passed by the last legislature.

Priest and Woman Found Dead at Church

(By Associated Press)
NEW BRITAIN, Conn., Feb. 9.—The Rev. Joseph Zeebri of the Lutheran church and the housekeeper employed at the rectory were found dead today on the church premises, victims of either murder or suicide. The dead priest was lying on the church floor. Apparently he had been shot and strangled. The woman's body, giving the police say, indications of strangling, was found in the rectory.

Hatfield Speaks For Moral Uplift

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—In introducing Dr. J. Aspinall McCaig, of New York, a representative of the National Civic Association, Governor Henry D. Hatfield made reference to radical reform movements which have characterized his administration. The executive declared himself to be heartily in favor of the campaign being made by the civic body throughout the country for a higher standard of personal purity, and intimated that he would support legislation designed to prevent, or at least mitigate, the evils against which Dr. McCaig is firing broadsides.

DAYTON CHARGES TO BE INVESTIGATED

House Accepts Report Of Committee, Orders Tak- ing Of Evidence.

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The judicial committee resolutions for the congressional investigation of charges against Federal Judge A. G. Dayton, of the Northern District of West Virginia, were adopted today by the house, and a sub-committee will take testimony.

Representative Sutherland, of West Virginia, said Judge Dayton's friends hoped the sub-committee would come to this district and investigate thoroughly, as they were confident the judge was blameless.

W. V. U. Present Claim To the Legislature

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—The claims of the West Virginia university for more liberal support from the state were presented to the house committee on finance by former Governor William E. Glasscock, who is in the city on business, and Acting President Frank B. Trotter, both of Morgantown.

They urged above everything else the acquiring of additional lands for agricultural purposes and the construction of a dormitory for girls. No action was taken by the committee.

Holland Is Buying Foodstuff For Siege

(By Associated Press)
HAMBURG, via The Hague and London, Feb. 9.—The council has appropriated \$3,000,000 with which to purchase a supply of foodstuffs, fodder and other articles to take the city may be prepared for eventualities. A commission will be appointed to have charge of obtaining the stores.

Arrested On Charge Of Tool Stealing

Marion Comuto was committed to jail today by Justice of the Peace R. Leigh Fleming for a hearing tomorrow on a charge of stealing mining tools valued at \$5.75. Comuto was arrested by Constable Satterfield this forenoon at the Junior mine of the Harry B. Coal Company at Coon Run. Benny Larry, who worked in the mine with Comuto is the informant. It is alleged that tools and power have been missed by various miners in the vicinity for some time and that yesterday afternoon several tools were found buried beneath debris in the part of the mine in which Comuto worked.

No Private Message On German Wireless

(By Associated Press)
AMSTERDAM, via London, Feb. 9.—The German postal authorities have announced that the German wireless system can no longer be used for the transmission of private messages. This interdiction applies even to private messages intended for warships or other vessels at sea.

Navy Beans Jump Dollar On Bushel

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—More demand for navy beans, has increased the price about \$1 a bushel within the last few weeks. The price of crackers following the rise in wheat advanced from 2 to 5 cents a pound in many of the large grocery establishments here.

RUSSIANS STOP GERMAN ATTACK AROUND WARSAW

Offensive Operations Are Resumed by Soldiers Of Czar.

TAKE MANY PRISONERS

DESPERATE FIGHTING IS REPORTED AT PRESENT IN EAST PRUSSIA.

(By Associated Press)
LONDON, Feb. 9.—The fierce German attack on the Warsaw front is again at a standstill, according to reports received from Berlin and Petrograd. On the other hand, the Russian capital reports that on each wing of the eastern battle line the Russian offensive has been resumed.

The official communications claim that the Russians have made progress on the Hungarian side of the western Carpathian ranges as well as gained successes in the direction of Novoluborz, which resulted in driving back the enemy with considerable loss in guns and prisoners.

The Austro-German army is said to have met reverses on the Galician side of the Uscok and Besid passes. Balancing these Russian successes are the Russian admission of their retirement before strong forces in Bukovina and the Austrian claim of having entered the town of Panopol in the Crown land, in East Prussia the fighting apparently is assuming a more desperate character.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Russia's unexpected adoption of offensive operations in Poland, from which the Germans have apparently been withdrawing some forces both to the north and south, furnishes the most striking feature of the military situation on the European continent.

From German sources, it is intimated that the plans for the capture of Warsaw still are being pushed. But the Russians claim several minor successes at various points and declare that the German attack reached its climax several days ago.

Senate Amends Service Bill

FAIRMONT CHARTER MAY COME BEFORE THE HOUSE THIS AFTERNOON.

(Special to The West Virginian)

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 9.—With the turbulent senators in a repentant mood this morning, the upper branch of the legislature made some progress and when recess was taken at noon until two o'clock the public service commission bill had been amended in many places and was ready to go to third reading, but on motion of Senator Godbey, patron of the bill, it was left on second reading until the afternoon session. It is expected however, that several amendments will be offered this afternoon.

Section 26, which provided that "no person shall be eligible to any town or city office, appointive or elective, who directly or indirectly has any pecuniary interest in any contract for furnishing heat, light, water, power or other public service to or for such town or city," was stricken out because it would have deprived men of means or interested in the development of any office in such town or city. No roll call was necessary and but one "NO" was heard against striking it out.

Senator Foxes motion to require the board of public works to give its approval before the public service commission could employ counsel in any case, was lost by a tie vote.

The only other business transacted by the senate this morning was the adoption of a resolution by Gregory for the printing and distribution of copies of the mining law.

The House having disposed of the public service commission bill yesterday, although in many sections different to the bill now going through the senate, passed nine bills before a recess was taken. Three of these were senate bills, but nearly all of a local nature. The most important being that giving school boards the right to lease its property for oil and gas purposes, the revenue to go to the benefit of the particular school district making such lease. The House also passed the senate bill giving right to bridge and railroad officers to carry weapons.

The Fairmont and Wheeling charters may be reached this afternoon on second reading.

PALATINE BAPTIST MEETING.

A splendid crowd was present yesterday evening and heard Dr. Kelley speak on the subject: "The Divine Call to Preparation." Great interest was manifested and three persons were received for baptism. The meetings have been going on less than a week, and to date eleven have been received into the membership of the church. Dr. Kelley will speak tonight on the subject, "God's Wonderful Love and His Gracious Gift."